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## *Admiral's Call: Chaplain Darold Bigger*

The world is today a very uncertain place. Wednesday morning, Secretary of State Powell presented to the United Nations Security Council this nation's reasons for being convinced that Iraq has not fulfilled its obligations and agreements with the UN. While we cannot be certain what the future holds, we can prepare for it. We can be ready!

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Readiness for some Reserve chaplains and RPs is a word from the past. In addition to those mobilized after the September attacks, several more have been mobilized in recent weeks. Some are already deployed supporting the men and women they've trained to serve.

Until this week there were questions as to whether or not enough Religious Ministry Team members would be available to hold the Religious Ministries Workshop (RMW) of the Marine Forces Reserve (MFR). It will happen as scheduled beginning this weekend and will gather every available chaplain and RP who holds a Marine assignment. The agenda which Chaplain Stith, MFR Chaplain, and his staff have adjusted to meet current needs says it all.

- A. Casualty Assistance Calls
- B. Combat Trauma Ministry
- C. Funerals
- D. Family Support
- E. Mobilization Issues
- F. Joint and Force Instructions

After the Religious Ministry Workshop we will report the take-aways. In the meantime:

Be strong. Be faithful. Be ready.

Cordially in God's Service,

Darold Bigger



*Chaplain Darold Bigger on a helo hop to ships in the Northern Arabian Gulf during a ministry stop in the summer of 2002.*

The Religious Ministries Newsletter is published for Naval Reserve chaplains and RPs who serve with Naval Reserve Forces Command, the Marine Forces Reserve, and the USCG.

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## *AT/ADT/ADSW Management*

Policy has recently been enacted for the management of ADT/AT/ADSW. A Naval Reservist may not exceed 29 days of AT per fiscal year per member. There are no waivers for additional AT days. ADT has a similar 29 day limit, but waivers may be applied for. ADSW will not be issued for more than 179 days per fiscal year per member unless the service member receives a waiver.

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## *Rear Admiral McLaughlin Audio Messages*

Rear Admiral John P. McLaughlin is the Commander of Naval Reserve Forces Command. His monthly addresses to the Naval Reserve community are provided online and are available for download in RealMedia, Windows Media, and MP3 format. You can get the Admiral's messages at: <http://www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/navsurf/cmdrcorner/cmdrcorner.htm>. At the same site are messages from the Admiral on important topics of customer service and realignment.



**RADM John P. McLaughlin**

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## *Religious Program Specialists*

RPCM Matthew Bremer serves as the Naval Reserve Forces Command Religious Ministries Master Chief. As the ranking enlisted member of our community he effectively represents Religious Program Specialists in their vital service to Religious Ministry in the Naval Reserve.

Master Chief Bremer invites the participation of Naval Reserve Religious Program Specialists in contributing to his column in the *Reserve Religious Ministries Newsletter*. Stories about information you think would be valuable to other RPs, adventures in learning you have had while supporting the fleet, or things you have learned that have helped you to be a more effective RP would all be appropriate. Please send your input to RPCM Bremer at [rpcm1@hotmail.com](mailto:rpcm1@hotmail.com).



**RPCM Matthew Bremer**

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## *Regional Chaplains and RPs*

Regional Chaplains and RPs are assigned to a Naval Reserve Readiness Command near you. They are available to assist with questions and needs that you may have in the area in which you serve. You can find contact information for Regional Chaplains and RPs at: [http://www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/n01g\\_rel/rdcm\\_pocs.htm](http://www.navres.navy.mil/navresfor/n01g_rel/rdcm_pocs.htm).

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## Time for APPLY

All O5 and O6 Naval Reserve chaplain billets and all OIC billets are distributed through a selection board process known as the APPLY board. While the rotation date for FY 2004 turnovers seems like a long way off, the process for filling vacant billets has already begun. Important milestones include the following dates:

- 01MAY03 Cutoff date for online registration in APPLY program.
- 18MAY03 Last day to revise dreamsheets.
- 06JUN03 Latest date for guaranteed consideration of supplemental material.
- 15JUN03 Board convenes.
- 27JUN03 Board concludes.
- 15AUG03 Orders are cut for those who have been selected for billets.

Occasionally dates have been changed, so check the APPLY website often at: <https://apply.nola.navy.mil>. Note that you must be registered by 30 April 03 in order to be considered.

# APPLY BOARD

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## The Chaplain/RP Photo Op

There is much truth to the saying, “a picture is worth a thousand words.” The *Reserve Religious Ministries Newsletter* has a place for a photo of you at work in the fleet. Chaplains and RPs are effectively providing support to the Navy worldwide. Perhaps you have recently returned from an AT/ADT or have recently been mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and have some images from your service to the fleet.



If you have images of yourself or other chaplains and/or RPs, please share them with us at the *Reserve Religious Ministries Newsletter*. Seeing each other in action provides for mutual encouragement in ministry! Send images to [barryc@nsb.org](mailto:barryc@nsb.org).

*Chaplain Mark Tidd, Navy Central Command Force Chaplain, doing “deckplate ministry” aboard the USS COLUMBLA (SSN 71). He is conversing with Mess Specialist Chief (SS) Kenneth Winslow and Lieutenant Kurt Williams, Supply Officer for the submarine. The COLUMBLA is in the Arabian Sea supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. U.S. Navy photo by PH2 Richard R. Moore.*

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MINISTRIES NEWSLETTER ARE  
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[HTTP://WWW.CHAPLAIN.NAVY.MIL](http://www.chaplain.navy.mil)

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*"Support the Navy-Marine Corps team  
with mission ready units, equipment, and individuals  
throughout the full range of operations from peace to war."*

*United States Naval Reserve chaplains and Religious Program Specialists serve the needs of the men and women of the United States Navy, United States Marine Corps and the United States Coast Guard by providing for the free exercise of religion and spiritual ministry around the world. Actively serving during peacetime, Naval Reserve chaplains and RPs are also available for mobilization in time of war to meet the needs of sea service personnel whenever and wherever they are called upon.*

